

Star Rosa Parks

TRENTON — The Assembly passed legislation urging Congress to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contributions to the United States.

The measure sponsored by Assemblyman William Payne, honors the "first lady of civil rights" and the "mother of the freedom movement."

Rosa Parks was arrested on Dec. 1, 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama for refusing to vacate her seat on a bus to a white man.

News of her arrest resulted in 42,000 African Americans boycotting Montgomery buses for 381 days

beginning on Dec. 5, 1955 and lasting until bus segregation laws were changed on Dec. 21, 1956.

"The quiet dignity of this woman ignited the most significant social movement in the history of the United States," said Payne (D-Essex). "Her courage, bearing, and intestinal fortitude resulted in the narrowing of the great racial schism observed in this country."

The United States Supreme Court ruled on Nov. 13, 1956, that the Montgomery segregation law was unconstitutional, and on Dec. 20, 1956, Montgomery officials were ordered to desegregate buses. The

Civil Rights Movement led to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which broke down the barriers of legal discrimination against African Americans and made equality before the law a reality for all Americans.

Rosa Parks has received numerous awards for her efforts on behalf of racial harmony, including the Springarn Award, the NAACP's highest honor for civil rights contributions, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, and the first International Freedom Conductor Award from the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

She was also the first woman to join the Montgomery chapter of the NAACP, was an active volunteer for the Montgomery Voters League, and in 1987 co-founded the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self-Development.

"Rosa Parks has dedicated her life to the cause of universal human rights and truly embodies the love of humanity and freedom," said Payne.

"Even after she was attacked in her own home in 1994, she has persisted as an advocate for the simple, basic lessons she taught the nation about freedom, and from which the nation has benefited immeasurably."



Rosa Parks

Star Rosa Parks

By Lucy Sanchez
Staff Writer

NEWARK — At noon the church bells rang throughout the city as the sweet, melodious voice of jazz legend Sarah Vaughan soared through the air. Many may remember "Misty," "Send in the Clouds," "Come Fly With Me," and many more classics from the Newark native. On March 25, the city immortalized the hometown legend in a street-naming ceremony.

Mayor Sharpe James unveiled the new street sign adorned with a musical note, "Sarah Vaughan Way," at the intersection of Park Place and Center St. Appropriately located in the heart of the city and across the street from the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), James hopes the tribute will serve as an inspiration to the thousands of talented youth that come out of Newark and the surrounding cities. James stated the young people "will look up and have a star to shoot at," as they enter New Jersey's "Apollo" haven.

In tears, Ada Vaughan was in disbelief that so many people actually came out to celebrate the 75th birth date of her precious daughter, Sarah. The Mt. Zion Church member thanked God for her ability to witness the event. She looked up from her wheelchair at Rev. Dr. Granville A. Seward and said "Look at the people coming. Look at these people smiling at me. Isn't this great?" Later on, in an interview with City News, Ada softly whispered, "I had no idea people were going to pay her no mind. My daughter's going to be so surprised when I go back and I tell her."

Ada Vaughan unexpectedly passed away in 1990. However, her voice will live on forever through the memories of her fans worldwide. Rev. Seward attributed Sarah's achievements to hearing her mother singing around the house. Ada was a choir member at Mt. Zion and even in her elderly years, she still participates in uplifting the sounds of the Lord.

Reaffirming what Mayor James stated about Vaughan's pride in growing up in Newark, it was easy to see she received those high regards for her hometown from her mother who wished to pass through her old neighborhood, downtown Newark and Mt. Zion after she passed away.

Rev. Seward accredited the church for the beginnings of many of our successful African-American heroes. "I think historically the African-American church has definitely been a place where young people can express their talent," stated Rev. Seward. Vaughan was living proof of this belief whereas, her harmonious voice rang out in church spirituals and soulful songs blossomed into a world-renowned legacy.

Lifetime friend, Evelyn Greene recalled attending Eastside High with Vaughan. She rejoiced over the times when they would mischievously chatter in church. "We would always tell jokes and laugh," stated Greene. "She would love to laugh."

Greene later lost contact with Vaughan after she decided to pursue a career in opera in February of 1943. However, she would see her perform in concert from time to time.

In the midst of the crowd of spectators two elderly NJPAC volunteers were pleased to see the city memorialize who Mayor James called Newark's "hero." Minie Matante and Lillian Stroud said their favorite songs from Vaughan were "Misty" and "Send in the Clouds." Stroud described Vaughan's voice as sincere, jazzy and melodious.

Councilwoman Gayle Chaneyfield-Jenkins preferred the words easy and divine to characterize Vaughan. She stated Vaughan's great appreciation for music and the church set a standard for the city. "I want to thank her for letting me know that dreams really do come true and that dreams start in Newark," stated Councilwoman Chaneyfield.



Sarah Vaughan's mother, Ada, watched in awe as Mayor Sharpe James unveiled a new street sign dedicated to the world renowned jazz legend on her 75th birth date.

In a triumphant moment for the Vaughan family, Mt. Zion church, African-Americans, Newark and the global jazz community at large, the city has brought one of their most talented and memorable, historical legends home one last time.

Citizens charge forward to justice

By Jean Pierre
Staff Writer

NEWARK — The hundreds of citizens rallying in downtown Newark on March 20th for the beginning of a series of action against police brutality and racial violence for these New Jersey activists.

The New Jersey Coalition Against Police Brutality has announced a commemorative ceremony in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on April 1 at the Newark Public Library; an emergency march in Washington D.C. for justice on April 3; an Action Planning and Strategy Session at the WISOMM Mansion in Newark on April 6; a motorcade marking the one year anniversary of the turpitude shooting along the New Jersey Turnpike on April 23, and an international rally for revolutionist Mumia Abu-Jamal in Philadelphia.

The first phase of protest has sparked a catalyst of community involvement and political consciousness throughout the New York and New Jersey area. Cheers and hi-fives were ringing throughout Newark's Public Library March 23 as members of POP (People's Organization for Peace) celebrated their participation in the March 20th rally.

The group heard stories from many of the protesters who attended the rally in downtown Newark. Larry Hamm, chairman of POP, commended the rallyers for their support. "It was

wonderful. The signs and pickets were awesome. We told our message," said Hamm, who believes more needs to be done. "It is time for all people of conscience to stand up for justice. We must end police brutality and racist harassment now." More than 150 people took to the streets, up and down Broad and Market with signs like "brutality" and "no justice no peace."

Joseph Antonio of Irvington was glad he participated in the rally. "The police are out of hand. They don't care about any human life but their own," said Antonio, who watched in horror as his son was beaten by three members of the Irvington Police Department in his home two years ago. "I'm here to make a stand and see things like this don't happen like it did for my son."

All this comes on the heels of two high profile stories in the last two months. One being the death of West African immigrant Amadou Diallo, who was shot 41 times by four New York City cops while unarmed; and the firing of four New York City Police Chief Col. Carl Williams, for making insensitive comments about minorities being stopped on the highways of New Jersey.

NAACP President and CEO Kweisi Mfume marked the arrest of the four officers in New York as "the first step toward obtaining justice in one of the decade's worst cases of police brutality."

Mfume and other civil rights leaders met with Attorney General Janet Reno on March 22

to demand further action be taken by the Clinton Administration. Mfume was one of the several thousand protesters in front of One Police Plaza during a series of rallies called by Rev. Al Sharpton. He was one of several hundred who have been arrested for committing acts of civil disobedience in light of strategies from the Civil Rights Movement and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Mfume stated, "Police misconduct and abuse in communities of color must not be tolerated. The NAACP will continue to march and to fight in the courts to see that our citizens are not abused by the very men and women sworn to protect them."

The POP which has also remained very active in the protest for justice has called for the hiring of significant numbers of African-American and Latino officers by state and local police forces, and their placement in leadership and supervisory positions. They are also calling for sensitivity training and racial bias testing. Hamm stated the most important resolution is the establishment of independent civilian controlled police review boards with subpoena powers.

Police brutality has surfaced as a national problem and the masses have vowed not to stop until justice is served. Kyle Jackson of Newark Arts High School is ready to go on the front lines. "This has been going on for years. It's ready, set, fire! I can't take more of this."

Business & Jobs Expo to connect industry, community

By Carl Chase
Staff Writer

The Newark area is booming. Residents are looking forward this year to a new baseball stadium to house the minor league Newark Bears, and other plans include a pro basketball arena, continued growth at Newark Airport and an expanded Port Newark that will remain a world-class waterfront well into the millennium.

The time to build education and skills for the resulting business and job opportunities has already arrived, says MBI Publisher Henry Johnson.

"As we prepare for the year 2000, we want to avoid some of the mistakes that occurred in the past," he said while organizing the Business and Job Expo 2000. "The excuses of the past won't be enough to prepare people for the opportunities of the future."

The April 12 event at the Newark Airport Marriott Hotel is co-sponsored by The Port Authority Office of Business and Job Opportunity, Horizon Mercy, Marriott Airport Hotel, Shering Plough, Chase Manhattan Bank, Dun & Bradstreet, PSE&G and many other organizations.

The event is designed to expand job opportunities in the area's urban centers. The latest statistics show that black youth have bypassed one of three unemployment rates—nearly three times their white counterparts' 12.2 percent. "The past eight years' economic boom have bypassed one out of three young black male job seekers came as no surprise to Johnson.

"This is an extremely strong peace-time economy, yet the urban centers still aren't experiencing the kind of growth and turn-around that is necessary. And although there has been reduced unemployment in urban centers, it's still double to triple that of the larger community."

City News created the Expo both to expose business owners to the opportunities in urban centers, and to help corporations better reach men and women committed to the cities.

"The work of (Harvard professor) Michael Porter to build more competitive inner cities has shown that, in order to strengthen these economies, more corporations must pursue with for-profit ventures that can build business in and out of the inner cities," Johnson said. "The notion that an inner-city business can't be successful in the city just is not true," he said.

Last year, New Jersey reached a record-high employment level of nearly

3.8 million, but corporations are experiencing trouble recruiting talent. A job opening in the state is filled at a rate that gap, he said. "Urban communities still have excessively high unemployment. Many people who have been confined to welfare, are now seeking jobs. We believe we have to open up the access to information about job openings and job training so people understand they can have a better future."

As the year 2000 looms, both workers and entrepreneurs must appreciate the service-driven economy, Johnson said.

All major industry posted job gains last year as government shrink and manufacturing held its own, according to the New Jersey Department of Labor. But the largest job growth occurred in services (45,500 jobs) and retail/wholesale trade (17,600). Clearly, customer service, product expertise and the personal skills to meet consumers, is in great demand in this environment.

Seven out of 10 jobs in New Jersey, or 79,800, were created in the Northern New Jersey region in 1998, the Labor Department reports. Services, business, health, personal, and engineering/accounting/manufacturing services—led the trend. The region's job growth kept up with the state's job growth rate for three years, and then last year surpassed it.

"The New Jersey metro area is a major business gateway with new opportunities opening all the time, particularly at the airport. Our children need to understand they've got to prepare for a service industry as well as the technological industry," Johnson said.

Businesses looking for growth in today's competitive environment need a trained, skilled workforce, he said. "People need the basic skills for a particular job, but they also need the interpersonal and leadership skills that all workplace requires. Employers are looking for workers who can generate customers and new business by their ability to interact and create good relationships."

Whether or not the economy continues to expand, residents can find out at the Expo what job opportunities will come into the area over the next several years.

"But when you're reading to what people aren't getting," Johnson said, "people have to look two to three years ahead and prepare to take advantage of what's coming down the road."

In the countdown to the year 2000, the Business and Job Expo will give them a head start.

Automobile insurance rates cut by 15 percent

TRENTON — Gov. Christie Whitman hailed the decision by the NJ Supreme Court upholding her mandatory five percent reduction in automobile insurance rates.

Whitman said she was pleased by the attempt by a small group of chiropractors and medical doctors to delay the implementation of protocols to curb fraud and abuse by grandmothers.

"The Supreme Court's decision today keeps intact the most meaningful automobile insurance

reform this state has seen in more than a quarter-century," Gov. Whitman said.

"With the Court's decision today, New Jersey motorists will see a minimum 15 percent reduction in mandatory coverage's. Even those motorists who choose expanded or optional coverage's, beyond those that are required by law, will see reductions of no less than 13 percent," she said.

"This is a very good day for drivers in New Jersey," she said.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

NEWARK — The Organizing for Community Development will hold its spring cycle of the "Grassroots School of Grant Writing." This program will train individuals to identify funding opportunities preparing grant proposals. The program will take place at Clear View Baptist Church. Call (732) 932-3356 for time.

ELIZABETH — The Elizabeth NAACP Youth Council will host the Sixth Annual Black Bowl Competition at the Dwyer Auditorium inside Elizabeth High School beginning at 10 a.m. (908) 298-4669.

NEW YORK — The Knickerbocker Bar & Grill presents bassist Miriam Sullivan beginning at 6 p.m. (212) 226-8490.

NEW YORK — The Greater New York Dealers Association presents the Seventh Annual National Automotive Technology Competition to hold at this year's New York International Auto Show at the Jacob Javits Center. Call (212) 677-3070 for time.

JERSEY CITY — New Jersey State University presents Joan Silber, author of *Household Words* and *In the City*, in *The Contemporary Memoir: Remembering Stories, Transforming History*, beginning at 12:00 p.m. (201) 200-3377.

ELIZABETH — The Elizabeth NAACP Youth Council will hold a demonstration workshop on being stopped by the police at the Marcy Walker Community Center beginning at 7 p.m. (908) 298-4669.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

MONTCLAIR — The Essex County Clerks Office will hold a county meeting at the Municipal Building beginning at 8:30 a.m. (973) 621-2848.

NEWARK — The People's Organization for Progress will hold a commemoration on the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the Newark Public Library beginning at 5:30 p.m. (973) 643-7711.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

PLAINFIELD — NJ Golden Gloves returns! The historic event will take place at the Plainfield High school gym on 950 Park Ave. beginning at 8:00 p.m. (908) 561-0123.

MENLO PARK — "It's the Easter Beagle, Charlie Brown," will be featured at Zany Broomy store in Menlo Park. Call beginning at 7:00 p.m. for children ages four and up. (732) 205-9661.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) pre-

sents Lauryn Hill with special guest Outkast beginning at 8 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

WESTFIELD — Does your child seem to always need your attention? Learn to help your kids behave with author Cynthia Whitman and The Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Union County beginning at 7:00 p.m. (908) 654-9854.

MENLO PARK — Get ready for Easter with Zany Broomy fun. Youngsters develop vocabulary and learn that reading is fun with Board Book Buddies beginning at 10:30 a.m. at Menlo Park Mall. Call (732) 205-9661 for information.

NORTH BRANCH — Raritan Valley Community College Fine and Performing Arts Department presents the student production of *All In The Timing* at the college's Walpole Theater beginning at 7:30 p.m. (908) 526-1200.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

JERSEY CITY — New Jersey University (NJCU) will hold a lecture on safe sex at the Formal Lounge located on the campus of NJCU beginning at 12 p.m. (201) 200-3428.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center presents Patti LaBelle and Geri Love in concert beginning at 8 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

THURSDAY, APRIL 8

NEW BRUNSWICK — The New Jersey State Bar Foundation will present a free public seminar on discrimination in the workplace at New Jersey Law Center beginning at 7 p.m. (732) 937-7518.

MAHWAH — Ramapo College will hold a dinner and lecture on the recent studies on cancer at the Tufts University School of Medicine on the campus of Ramapo College beginning at 6 p.m. (201) 884-7002.

JERSEY CITY — New Jersey City University (NJCU) will hold a discussion on charter schools at the Grossmink Auditorium beginning at 5 p.m. (201) 200-3428.

CLARK — The Clark Public Library will hold a poetry session beginning at 7:30 p.m. (732) 988-9999.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

PRINCETON — The New Jersey Child Assault Prevention presents the 1999 Child Assault Prevention CAP Awards, honoring individuals who help in the daily battle on child abuse. It will take place at the Marriott Forestal Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. (609) 582-7000.

Newark's youth strike a victory at bowling tournament



The Winners of Cabelvision's Sixty Annual High School Bowling Tournament for the Newark School District are as follows: (L-R): Lamont Dixon, West Side High School; Lamar Davis, Westside High School; Cory Simpson, Montgomery High School; Clarence Freeman, Malcolm X Shabazz High School; and Antoine Coughman, Tech High School.

Local resident appears on PBS special



Dorothy Wallace, a Newark resident and postal worker, joins Emmy-winning anchor Steve Adubato this week for the premier of "Money Matters," a Caucus: New Jersey special premier on April 3 at 12:30 p.m. on NJN Public Television. Wallace and other guests will discuss the challenges they face when it comes to money matters, and are offered practical advice by a financial expert.

Moving on up Sea Girt holds second graduation ceremony for correctional officers



Patricia Lawrence-Haugton, President and CEO of Alken Tours/Apel Travel was honored twice at the Fifth Annual Bridges to Success Awards. The 25-year-old wholesale and retail travel company was recognized for outstanding achievements in two categories: Top Ten Women and Minority Owned Firms and the Fifty Largest Privately Held Firms.



The New Jersey Dept. of Corrections Staff Training Academy held its second graduation from the Sea Girt facility on March 5. Commissioner Jack Terhune administered the Oath of Office to 86 recruits. Pictured from left to right are Keith P. McBride, Roselle, Brian K. Mathis, Port Elizabeth, Marcus Giannetta, Rahway. Commissioner Jack Terhune, Jason Lukaszewski, Rahway, Lena Fowler, Plainfield and Eric Selden, Rahway.



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Nation Briefs

MALARIA CASES ON THE RISE IN SOUTH AFRICA

HARARE (IPS) — A malaria epidemic is sweeping through Southern Africa, placing the lives of millions at risk, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). "All the signs show a severe malaria season for Southern Africa," says Dr. Shiva Murgasammy of the WHO Regional Office for Africa, based in the Zimbabwean capital of Harare. Murgasammy says the mosquito and the disease are at the high risk periods in the region.

Southern Africa, with a population of about 195 million people, groups Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Malaria is one of the leading health problems in Africa, South of the Sahara. The disease attacks between 270 and 480 million people and kills between 1.5 and 2.7 million each year.

CARIBBEAN REGION UP IN ARMS OVER NUCLEAR SHIPMENT

SAN JUAN (IPS) — Regional governments and environmentalists are strongly denouncing plans for yet another shipment of nuclear waste to be transported through the Caribbean Sea in defiance of repeated protests and diplomatic exchanges on the matter.

The ship, which left France on Feb. 25, is expected to enter the Caribbean Sea via the Mona Borel which separates the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico.

The Caribbean Community (Caricom) leaders are calling on the governments of France, Japan and the United Kingdom to respect the economic importance and ecological fragility of the Caribbean Sea and the well-being of the millions of people who depend on this unique resource for their very existence.

In Puerto Rico, environmental groups are preparing for battle. At the same time, the element of enormous danger for ecosystems and populations all over the Caribbean," said Jorge Fernandez, environmental adviser to the Puerto Rico Independence Party (Partido Independencia Puertorriquena/PIP).

NO PRESIDENTIAL BID IN JACKSON'S PLAN FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

CHICAGO — The Rev. Jesse Jackson, who as head of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition is leading numerous efforts to bring economic aid to minorities, announced recently that he would pass on a presidential nomination in 2000.

Following are excerpts from Jackson's announcement regarding presidential aspirations: "Time spent running for President is time that cannot be spent fighting coming else. Money raised and spent to support a campaign for president is money that may not be used to deal with the problems of the poor and the oppressed."

"Today, too many Americans are excluded from our growth, wealth and prosperity. We cannot rest until the one big tent American Dream includes all and leaves no one behind."

While we are preoccupied with the horizontal gap between the races, it is the vertical gap between the surplus class or the haves and the deficit culture or the have-nots that is wider and calls to us to act. The imperative is to build bridges from Wall Street to Appalachia and the Delta, or prosperous Silicon Valley to the ghetto, barrios and tenements of the inner cities and Middle America.

And so I will be focusing on a access to capital, quality education for all of our children, the rise of the jail-industrial complex, human rights around the world, comprehensive health care for all Americans, and urging voters to build coalitions on shared economic interests."

"I've got so many issues I want to raise. I've got so many battles left to fight. I simply believe that I can most effectively advance that work, those issues, and these battles outside the context of a presidential campaign."

The present high finance, front loaded campaign of central politics is too many Americans unserved. I do not want my service strained by this media-driven, high finance system. In the tradition of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I want to go outside the limits of traditional party politics and address the soul of America.

By Donna De La Cruz

NEW YORK (AP) — One sign held aloft in a demonstration against the police shooting death of Amadou Diallo read "41 bullets, 41 million protests." Leaders of the black and Hispanic communities have taken that sign as a guide.

So far, the rallies — mainly attended by minorities — have charged racism by New York's police. But some activists see the protests sparking a broader civil rights movement in a city where the races are divided by great disparities in income and quality of neighborhoods.

"How ironic it is that 33 years ago I went to the South and took part in a historic civil rights movement — in New York's police. But some activists see the protests sparking a broader civil rights movement in a city where the races are divided by great disparities in income and quality of neighborhoods."

Norman Siegel, executive director of the New York Civil Liberties Union.

Dr. Daniels, a veteran activist and executive director of the Center for Constitutional Rights, also points to similarities between the '60s civil rights movement and the Diallo rallies.

Lead activist Rev. Al Sharpton sought to draw the parallel with the '60s by urging "Martin Luther King-like tactics" of civil disobedience and other peaceful yet powerful protests. And a frequent speaker at the rallies has been 70-year-old Rev. Wyatt Lee Walker, once King's chief of staff.

Diallo's shooting has awakened the black community at the grassroots level, Daniels said.

"The police Diallo police killing was so heinous, so outrageous, it struck a nerve," Daniels said. "What I see in New York right now is one of the most intense responses I've ever seen here — and you have to remember it's winter, and people are still coming out in weather with wind chills of minus 5 and 10 degrees."

City officials have denied the charges of police racism. The police say the officers fired because they believed Diallo, an immigrant from Guinea, was pulling a gun.

But Daniels believes the rallies are forcing Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and other officials to take seriously the charge that the racial makeup of the police be made to better reflect the community.

Last week, Police Commissioner Howard Safir announced the department's largest-ever recruitment drive, which is focused on city minorities.

The 40,000-member force is 67 percent white, but only 43 percent of the city's population is white, according to police and 1990 Census figures. Blacks make up 13 percent of the department, but New York is 26 percent black. Hispanics make up 17 percent of the police, but the city is 24 percent Hispanic.

But some black leaders say changing the racial makeup of the department and holding rallies will not solve the problem of police brutality.

Roger Warchant, an attorney and black activist, has held discussions on forming a people's militia.

"We will examine our constitutional right to educate, organize and mobilize our communities to defend and protect ourselves from illegal police terror," he said.

Through the end of white rule in 1994's all-race elections, the government passed legislation to return land to those from whom it was taken under colonialism and apartheid.

The 500-member Klamani tribe that Krupier heads filed a claim for a huge swath of the Kalahari Desert. Bushmen, also known in South Africa as San people, roamed the Kalahari for thousands of years.

Though much of the land redistribution process has been slow and dogged by legal fights, the Klamani claim is close to being settled. Baked by the midday sun and frozen by cold, clear nights, it might seem scant compensation for centuries of oppression that never ended out of South Africa's Bushmen.

But for Krupier the land is heaven on earth. His father is buried there and other ancestral graves, and he has had to get permission from a white farmer to pass his respects.

"We just want the right of living, hunting and walking on our ancestral lands without having to ask for permits or go through any organization," Krupier said, his wrinkled face crumpling into a frown.

The modern world has not treated the Bushmen well. They once inhabited most of South Africa. But European settlers and migrating black tribes from the north forced them into a few scattered strongholds. In some areas they were hunted and killed as unwanted pests.

Gazing into the distance, across land that will soon be returned to him, Krupier now believes his culture will live on long after he is gone.

"I cannot see very well, but my mind can see and my heart can feel," he says. "On the land the children will feel at home. Then my spirit will know that our tradition is living."

Cancer forces Farrakhan to bed rest



Minister Louis Farrakhan

CHICAGO (AP) — Under doctor's orders, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan is taking four months off to recuperate from cancer treatment side effects, the flu and fatigue.

Dr. Abdul Alim Muhammad strongly denied that the 65-year-old Farrakhan was on his deathbed: "Some of you who have black hair now — your hair will be silver before he leaves this scene. There is no death wish. There is no death watch," Muhammad said at a news conference at Farrakhan's Salaam restaurant. "The minister's life is not in imminent danger from any medical cause."

Farrakhan did not attend, but representatives said only that he was not in a hospital. The Rev. Jesse Jackson said he spoke with Farrakhan and found "his voice vibrant and strong."

The Nation of Islam's official publication, The Final Call, recently reported that Farrakhan has struggled to overcome "the force of death" since coming down with a mysterious illness in January.

The newspaper quoted the minister as saying in two weeks that he had lost 20 pounds in two weeks and had "no appetite, night sweats — the after-effects of radiation therapy and other things."

Farrakhan was first treated for what his doctor called "garden variety prostate cancer" in 1991, using a hormonal therapy. Three years later, doctors began planting bits of radioactive metal in a bid to kill cancer.

Farrakhan has 235 such seeds, his doctor said. Muhammad said Farrakhan's score on a prostate specific antigen test has ranged from an ominous 16 to below one — a level shown by men who are free of cancer.

He has suffered intestinal discomfort as well as anemia as side effects of the treatment, Muhammad said. Two bouts of the flu last September and 40 years of leading his Nation of Islam have left Farrakhan in a weakened condition.

Farrakhan is said to be rising long before dawn, practicing his vocal two hours, working out for two hours and then putting in a long, physically demanding day, Muhammad said.

Farrakhan will stay out of sight and rest for four months, before returning to go on a 35-city tour of the United States.

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BUSINESS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

NEWARK — Organizing for Community Development will hold its spring cycle "Grassroots School of Grant writing." This program will train individuals to identify funding opportunities and prepare grant proposals. The event will take place at Clear View Baptist Church (720) 932-3356 for time and information.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

NEWARK — The New Jersey Small Business Development Center will hold a workshop on the impact of the Y2K on small business at Two Gateway Center beginning at 10 a.m. (973) 445-6054.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

IRVINGTON — The Entrepreneur Training Institute will hold its spring starting and managing a successful business at Irvington Senior Citizens beginning at 9 a.m. (609) 933-1176.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

NEW YORK — The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey Regional Alliance for Small Contractors will hold a workshop on the internet and the construction industry at the WTC (World Trade Center) Business Resource Center beginning at 9 a.m. (212) 435-6502.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

NEWARK — The U.S. Small Business Administration and the New Jersey Small Business Development Center will hold a seminar on all aspects of small business. Call (973) 645-2434 for time and location.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11

NEWARK — The U.S. Small Business Administration and the New Jersey Small Business Development Center will hold a seminar on all aspects of small business. Call (973) 645-2434 for time and location.

TUESDAY, APRIL 13

NEWARK — The Minority Business Journal will hold a Business & Job Expo 2000 Summit at the Newark Airport Marriott beginning at 8 a.m. Admission is free. (908) 753-1400.

Whitman announces five percent mortgages

ATLANTIC CITY — The Whitman administration announced an additional \$10 million in "Too Good, But It's True" mortgages for home buyers shopping in 17 Urban Coordinating Council (UCC) designated neighborhoods. The five percent fixed-rate, 30-year mortgage program is immediately available from lenders authorized by the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (HMFJA).

With a "Too Good, But It's True" mortgage, buyers can achieve home ownership with lower monthly payments than a conventional mortgage. In addition, buyers may qualify for a no money down mortgage. Current eligible neighborhoods are located in Ashbury Park, Camden, Dover, Elizabeth, Jersey City, Long Branch, Newark, New Brunswick-Franklin Township and Trenton. Additional

cities are expected to be qualified later in 1999. "In order to address the unique housing needs of the state's urban areas, Gov. Whitman established the UCC with representatives from every department of state government," said HMFJA Chairman Jane M. Kenny. "The UCC seeks to support locally developed plans that encourage the growth of safe, economically sound communities."

The need for home ownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income buyers was clearly identified by the UCC. In order to promote home ownership in these urban areas, HMFJA established the "Too Good, But It's True" five percent mortgage program. "To date, HMFJA has provided \$332 million in "Too Good, But It's True" mortgages to 407 families in

UCC cities, and today is making an additional \$10 million available," said HMFJA Executive Dir. Deborah De Santa.

The "Too Good But It's True" mortgages are available through participating area lenders. For more information on HMFJA's consumer mortgage programs, and participating lenders, call the HMFJA hotline at 1-800-NJ-HOUSE.

SBA empowerment zone program opens for business

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is now accepting applications from businesses interested in the benefits of a new federal program to stimulate economic development and job creation in targeted urban and rural areas.

The HUBZone Empowerment Contracting program "can help open the doors of opportunity for small businesses in underserved locations throughout the country," SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez said as the program opened March 22. "I encourage small business owners to either go on-line or visit an SBA district office to see if you're qualified and fill out an application as soon as possible."

A "HUBZone" is a historically under-utilized business zone, and the program will provide contracting benefits to small businesses located in "core" zones throughout New Jersey and nationwide.

In New Jersey, Essex County has the most HUBZones with 50, followed by Passaic with 31. Third is Camden County, and even the Rancocas Indian Reservation is a HUBZone.

Part of Atlantic City, parts of Burlington County and Cumberland county have them, among other areas. Middlesex County has zones in parts of Carteret, of New Brunswick and of Perth Amboy.

More than 7,000 urban census tracts currently qualify as HUBZones. Richard Zig, director of the SBA Minority Enterprise Development Program, said what is so great about the new program is that "unlike all our other programs, you can get your certification online."

Each business will first find out if their location is in an "undersertified" census tract. That can quickly be done on the HUBZone Web site, at <http://www.sba.gov/hubzone>.

Probably even more important is that small business firms can now negotiate sole source contracts and participate in restricted competition

limited to HUBZone firms. In full and open bidding competition, qualified businesses located in HUBZone areas receive a special advantage that will undoubtedly direct more government money to distressed areas in the long run. There is a 10 percent price evaluation preference in those cases, said Jim Kocsi, deputy district director of the SBA's New Jersey District.

The contract bid a HUBZone firm offers will be considered lower than a non-HUBZone firm's bid — as long as the HUBZone firm's price is not more than 10 percent higher. "If a company qualifies, in the HUBZone, can bid higher and still get the contract," Kocsi said.

The new mapping feature was launched on March 22 along with HUBZones itself, said Zig, of the Newark SBA office. "You can plug in your street address or, alternately, ask if your city contains a HUBZone."

The Web site has other useful information, including a program guide, participating agencies and frequently asked questions, said Richard Hayes, SBA's Associate Deputy Administrator for Government Contracting and Minority Enterprise Development.

To apply, companies should use the electronic application on the Web. They will submit a paper application to SBA headquarters in Washington, D.C. This form is available on the Web or at any local SBA office.

The program's first goal is to channel at least one percent of overall federal procurement to HUBZone small businesses, which currently would equal about \$2 billion in contracts. By year 2003 that goal rises to its maximum level of three percent, which translates to about \$6 billion.

To participate in the program, a small business' principal office must be located in a HUBZone.

In addition, 25 percent of a participating firm's work force must reside within a HUBZone location. A qualified company also must be owned and operated by U.S. citizens.

Race and financial exposure



Dale Caldwell

The issue of racial profiling by the New Jersey State Police clearly demonstrates that the poor relationship between African-American and white residents of New Jersey is one of the most significant issues facing the state. And the difference in financial and business exposure between the races parallels the problem of race relations.

African-American residents of New Jersey, as demonstrated by our saving and spending patterns, do not have the same level of understanding of financial issues as do white residents. We must recognize that this difference exists and begin teaching our young people about business and how to plan for their financial future.

The easiest way to understand this divide between the races is to track the lives of a typical African-American and white American in New Jersey. Most African-American in New Jersey grow up in urban areas and attend predominantly black or Hispanic public schools. Most whites live in predominantly white suburban or rural areas.

Early in life, the interaction most African-American and whites have is most theaters, at malls or when rural schools pay a higher fee in sports.

College is often the first environment in which African-American and white students have an opportunity to know each other. However, if these individuals do not go to college, their interaction with people of a different race continues to be minimal.

The same can be said about the financial education of blacks and whites. Many more whites than blacks come from families and neighborhoods in which business and finance are discussed on a regular basis. I know of many African-American students who have gone through their whole life without knowing a successful African-American business person. However, I do not know any white students who have suffered from this same lack of exposure to finance and business.

Lack of interaction between African-American and whites encourages the development of stereotypes. African-American and white students develop beliefs about each other that have no basis in fact. These stereotypes are often very destructive and divisive. Moreover, they will continue well into adulthood unless there is significant interaction between African-American and whites.

cars and whites.

Likewise, lack of interaction with successful business persons prevents African-American youth from aspiring to careers in business and dreaming about maximizing their net worth through business.

Clearly the solution to the problem of race relations and lack of interaction with successful business persons is exposure. Young people of all races must be exposed to people of a different race early in life. In addition, African-American youth must be exposed to successful business persons as frequently as possible.

Politicians should support legislation that would provide financial incentives encouraging interaction between young people of different races as early as kindergarten. Funding should be made available for frequent joint field trips with local schools containing students of different races.

Politicians should also support programs that would expose African-American and other "at-risk" students to financial planning and careers in business. I have seen firsthand the benefits of this exposure. In 1996, I started a program called School-To-Work Day that takes place on the first Friday in March each year. It exposes "at-risk" youth to career opportunities that they otherwise would not know about.

This year, on March 5, students in ten counties and more than 100 U.S. cities were brought into corporations and taught about the inner workings of business and finance. I am pleased to say that, thanks to companies like Deloitte & Touche, United Airlines, PricewaterhouseCoopers and Hilton Hotels, African-American and other students learned some lessons about business and financial planning that they will never forget.

My hope is that every reader of this column will make a commitment to expose at least one young person to finance and business before the end of the year.

Dale Caldwell is a financial adviser from Deloitte & Touche Consulting Group.

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Don't miss **Business & Job Expo 2000**. Designed to help business owners and residents, specifically those who are located in urban centers, learn about the billions of dollars in business and job opportunities this Expo is a must attend, especially if you are looking to do business at the airport or in the construction industry.

Business Expo 2000 gives you an opportunity to let corporations, state, county city agencies, and non-profit organizations know about your products and services. In addition, you have access to business budget sessions and business coaching to fit your business needs. You will leave this Expo with knowledge, a list of projects with contact names and numbers to follow up. At the Expo you will meet with purchasing officers and companies looking to do business with companies like yours. Free continental breakfast and lunch only to Business Expo registrants. Enrollment is limited to first come, first serve.

Pre-registration is required.

Job Expo 2000 gives urban residents an opportunity to learn about available job opportunities, possible careers, employment trends and knowledge of available technology training. If you took the buyout package, we were downsized, right-sized, outsized or just looking for new possibilities, then you want to attend Job Expo 2000.

No pre-registration required.

April 12, 1999
8:30 am - 3:00 pm
Newark Airport Marriott Hotel

Admission is free.
Call (908) 754-3400
Fax (908) 753-1036

Business Expo Registration Tentative Agenda Opening Session: Business Trends for the new millennium Luncheon: Topic and speaker to be announced Small Business Technology Center Name _____ Address _____ City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____ Fax # _____	Business Expo Registration Tentative Agenda ☐ One Stop Capital Show ☐ Opportunities in Construction ☐ Franchising Opportunities Reserve my space for: ☐ Breakfast ☐ Lunch Company Name _____ Type of Business _____ Contact Person _____ Title _____
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RSVP by Calling (908) 754-3400 or Faxing (908) 753-1036 Deadline April 7, 1999

RELIGION CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

NEW YORK — David E. Talbot Productions presents the Gospel Musical *Mr. Right Now* at the Beacon Theater beginning at 8 p.m. (212) 496-7070.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

PLAINFIELD — Shiloh Baptist Church will conduct a community Easter Sunday Worship Service at the Plainfield High School Auditorium beginning at 10:30 a.m. (908) 754-3353.

PLAINFIELD — Bethel Presbyterian Church presents live music on Easter Sunday at 300 East 5th St. beginning at 10:45 a.m. and the 9:30 service (908) 757-5590.

NEWARK — An Easter Sunday Concert will provide an evening of inspirational gospel entertainment hosted by veteran radio announcer Herman Arns at St. Lukes AME Church beginning at 8:00 p.m. (973) 656-1872.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10

NEW PROVIDENCE — "Sharing," a volunteer, non-profit organization for the handicapped is having its annual "1/2 off everything and flea market sale" at the United Methodist Church on 1441 Springfield Ave. beginning at 9:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17

NEW BRUNSWICK — The First Reformed Church and the 5th Avenue Players present "Godspell," an original pop-rock-gospel musical starting at 8 p.m. (732) 645-1005.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

NEWARK — A Gospel play written and directed by Celeste Bateman entitled *We have the Victory* will be at Bethany Baptist Church beginning at 3 p.m. (973) 705-8253.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

NEWARK — Celeste Bateman & Associates presents the Gospel Play *We have the Victory* at Newark Symphony Hall's Second Theater beginning at 8 p.m. (973) 705-8253.

How to trace your family tree

By Courtney L. Cannon-Scott

The word "reunion" means to get together again. It is a social gathering of people who have been separated from one another. Summer and fall are the most popular times for reunion planning. And, vacations are often scheduled around them. Some family reunions last several days and include relatives from many states, while others are as small as a Sunday family dinner.

Regardless of size, it is a chance to reconnect with distant relatives, honor elders, remember ancestors and plan for the future. There are many books on the market to assist in planning a small or large event. One such book, "The Family Reunion Planner" by Donna Beasley, is available at libraries and

bookstores. Even if you have planned a reunion before, this is a good reference and is sure to give you some new ideas on putting together a unique celebration.

Once the decision is made to have a reunion, the easy part is done! Then, there needs to be a group or committee assigned to plan the reunion. Some things to consider are: size and type of function, location, time of year, frequency and theme. One of the first things to do is to compile a list of relatives and their addresses, with phone numbers. It is essential to keep people informed of the progress being made throughout the preparations.

Another essential job is the establishment of a budget. One person will need to be in charge of finances, and a



separate bank account for reunion expenses should be maintained. The goal is to break even or have a balance remaining that can be carried over to the next get-together. Reunion costs begin before the actual event and can continue after it. For example, before the reunion, costs may include postage, telephone calls, paper and copies, T-

shirts, decorations, and food or facility deposits. During the event, costs include entertainment, photographer, speaker, food and beverages.

The amount of time and work involved in planning and hosting a family reunion may seem overwhelming, but the benefits make it worth the effort.

Male-female relationships, more than just sex

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

The alienation of contemporary man (Westerners) from his god, other humans and himself is a recurring feature of modern culture. Examine Western society and philosophy and you will discover an age-old enmity between white men, their women, their children, their god and nature. In ancient Africa and Canaan prior to Indo-European invasion, women were held in high esteem. Records indicate they wielded enormous political and religious influence. In fact, almost every African culture has a myth about a time when women ruled over men!

With the coming of the Eurasians we saw a paradigm shift in male-female relationships from complementary balance and harmony to separation, discord and subordination.

The imbalance of Western culture is apparent in every facet of its existence, particularly in male-female relations. The left hemisphere is segregative and analytical. It separates things into compartments. That explains why Europeans are alienated from their true selves, their inner spiritual core and why they perceive themselves as "individuals," isolated entities in com-

petition with all creation. This alienation is best exemplified in their heritage of gender and racial chauvinism.

One are the African concepts of integrated/complementary opposites. We are becoming more and more estranged from ourselves. Now both sexes boast they don't need the other, except for sexual gratification. This is insane! We do need our opposite, yet complementary half. Without one, the other will wither and die. Will re-establishing balanced male-female relationships make living in a racist society more bearable? Certainly.

Racism is nothing but a manifestation of the imbalanced left brain orientation of whites. Linking with our conscious complementary selves, will enable us to create ways to transcend the insanity of this culture. Self and group affirmation will empower, energize, enable and enable us to overcome.

This requires more of us becoming satisfied with the physical—exploitation, disrespect and dehumanization that pervades our community and making a conscious decision to respect and empower ourselves by forming linkages with like-minded brothers and sisters.

Rabbis, senior citizens arrested at Diallo protest

By Beth Gardiner

NEW YORK (AP) — Rabbis singing Hebrew psalms and women in their 80s — including the mother of slain civil rights worker Andrew Goodman — were among 212 people arrested on March 24, in the biggest day yet of civil disobedience over the police killing of Amadou Diallo.

An 85-year-old woman in a wheelchair and labor leaders including the powerful hospital workers' union chief Dennis Rivera were also arrested.

On the 12th day of rallies outside Police Headquarters, officers appeared relaxed and familiar with the ritual. More than 600 people have been arrested in the weekday protests that began March 9. The protesters are charged with disorderly conduct and issued summonses after proceeding at a nearby precinct.

Carolyn Goodman, 83, said before her arrest that she was protesting partly in memory of her son Andrew, whose 1964 killing in Mississippi was one of the most notorious crimes of the civil rights era.

Forty days after the 20-year-old Goodman and two fellow civil rights

workers, James Chaney and Michael Schwerner, disappeared, their bodies were found buried in an earthen dam near Philadelphia, Miss.

"We have just lived through another murder of another man," said Goodman. Getting arrested was "a tribute to my son as well as addressing myself to what occurred... in our city."

Many of the Jewish protesters said they wanted to show their support for other minority groups.

Police brutality, discrimination against African-Americans, it's not an African-American issue, it's also a Jewish issue, a human issue," said Rabbi Benay Lappe of Congregation Beth Shalom in Greenwich Village. "We have to stand up for this, to fight for justice."

The protest made for some unlikely partnerships. The Rev. Al Sharpton, who has helped organize the rallies and whose accused anti-Semitism in the early 1990s, beamed and chimed in for a few lines as a group of yarmulke-wearing rabbis standing beside him sang the 97th Psalm in Hebrew.

At least 15 rabbis and a dozen rabbinical students were arrested, along with about 50 other Jews.

New beginning for National Baptist Convention

By Joe Edwards

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Ministers in the National Baptist Convention USA want the denomination to make a fresh start under new leadership that is more accountable than the Rev. Henry Lyons.

Lyons resigned as convention president two weeks after being convicted of racketeering and grand theft for swindling millions of dollars.

The Rev. S.C. Cureton of Greenville, S.C., will take over immediately as the convention's president until Lyons' term expires in September.

They ministers urged that the convention's constitution be redrawn and that the 239-board of directors be selected according to provisions of the new constitution.

They made no specific proposals for the constitution except to say that the power of the president needs to be reviewed. The group also suggested tighter controls on the convention's bank account.

"We will never again be subjected to one-man rule," said Whalum, minister of Mount Olivet Baptist Church in Memphis.

The 119-year-old convention has 11,000 churches. The next board meeting is scheduled for June in Louisville, Ky., but Whalum said Cureton may call a meeting prior to that "to establish himself."

The Rev. Amos Brown of San Francisco said Lyons has "marred and desecrated" the church.

"We need to get back to the message... of preaching the gospel to the four corners of this earth," he said.

Dr. Arlene R. Chum of Philadelphia said Lyons had used women in an unwholy way and women need to realize their Christian capabilities. Prosecutors said Lyons had several mistresses.

Dr. Amos Jones of Nashville said Lyons must now pay for his actions. "He has gotten what he deserved," Jones said.

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HeartBeat

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City News 7

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

BELLE MEAD — Make a difference in the lives of battered women and children in your community. The Resource Center for Women and their families offers a 40-hour training course twice a year. (908) 359-0003 ext. 115.

NEW YORK — The Harm Reduction Training Institute (HRTI) will hold discussion on nutrition for HIV and substance abuse at The Open Society Institute beginning at 7:30 p.m. (212) 683-2304.

PARSIPPANY — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at Dover Business College beginning at 9 a.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

NEW BRUNSWICK — Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital will offer a support group for young and middle age adults with a cardiac condition at the hospital's board room beginning at 7:30 p.m. (732) 937-8820.

WAYNE — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at William Paterson University beginning at 11 a.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

MONDAY, APRIL 5

WESTFIELD — St. Helen's Church will hold a support group meeting for those caring for the elderly or chronically ill loved ones beginning at 8 p.m. (908) 233-8757.

TEANECK — Holy Name Hospital will offer a course Tai Chi Chih at the Health Science building beginning at 10 a.m. (201) 833-3186.

EAST ORANGE — The Blood Center of New Jersey will hold a blood drive at their offices beginning at 2:30 p.m. 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6

BERKELEY HEIGHTS — The Union County Board of Chosen Physicians will offer a post-stroke exercise program at Runnels Hospital beginning at 12 p.m. (908) 527-4900.

Racism and black infant mortality

By Deepthi Hajela

NEWARK (AP) — Racism, discrimination and other stresses black women encounter could be a factor in their babies facing a higher risk of infant death than white children, speakers at a conference on black infant mortality said.

Overall, about seven infants of every 1,000 born die before reaching

age 1. But black infants are 2 1/2 times more likely than white infants to die before their first birthday, Surgeon General David Satcher said on March 19.

"As long as we have a situation where an African-American baby is 2 1/2 times more likely to die, it reflects a major problem in society."

Premature birth and low birth weight are significant factors in infant

mortality, and researchers said stress from environmental and social conditions could be leading to black women giving birth earlier and to smaller children.

"Racism ... needs to be studied if we want to understand health differences between blacks and whites," said Dr. Richard David, associate professor in the College of Medicine at the University of Illinois.

"We can't have these disparities," said Dr. Diane Rowley with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "The only question is, are we willing to do what it's going to take to not lose these children?"

David said preliminary research seems to show factors like environmental toxins, living in high-violence areas, feeling discriminated against at work or at school can all go toward children

being born with low birth weights. Rowley said the medical world needs to focus more on how to determine the impact of stress on the body, but that it was difficult to figure out. The conference was organized by the Northern New Jersey Maternal Child Health Consortium, which came out with a report in September 1997 that said stress most likely factored into black infant mortality.

Minority children face higher risk of developing heart disease

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Heart disease risk factors are generally higher in Mexican-American and black children than in white children, according to a study by Stanford University researchers published last Wednesday.

Ethnic differences in risk factors were evident as early as six to nine years of age, the study's authors said. The study, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, was based on data collected from more than 7,000 U.S. residents ages six to 24.

The researchers found that Mexican-American and black youths were heavier, had higher blood pressure and had fatter diets than white youths.

Dr. Teri Manolio, director of epidemiology and biometry at the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute said the findings were cause for concern.

"If six to nine year olds are already overweight, they're going to be in some trouble as adults because that will translate into a higher risk of cardiovascular disease," she said.

The study, believed to be the most comprehensive in examining heart disease among children of different ethnicities, also found that white teenagers girls smoke four times as much as Mexican-American girls and eight times as much as African-American girls.

The findings "highlight the need

for information about heart disease prevention to be made available sooner, maybe as early as kindergarten," said Marilyn Winkleby, an epidemiologist at the Stanford Center for Research in Disease Prevention and lead author of the study. She pointed out that information about heart disease is not marketed in minority communities as well as cancer, AIDS and child vaccinations.

The study is based on dietary surveys and medical exams given to 7,686 black, Mexican-American and white subjects between 1988 and 1994 as part of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

Hispanic groups other than Mexican-American were not included in the survey.

The researchers examined several cardiovascular disease risk factors: body weight, blood pressure, cigarette smoking, an early sign of diabetes and blood cholesterol.

The study found that black girls ages six to nine were about four percent heavier than white girls, had higher blood pressure and consumed more fat. Among women ages 18 to 24, black and Mexican-American women were an average of 12 pounds heavier.

Black men tended to be heavier

for their height and consumed more fat than white and Mexican-American men, the study found, though the differences among the groups were less marked and appeared later in life.

Help cut your risk of heart disease and stroke

By Larry Lucas

African Americans face higher risks of heart disease and stroke than the majority population. The death rate from heart disease is nearly 30 percent higher for African-American men than for white men and 47 percent higher for African-American women than for white women. African Americans are also two-and-a-half times more likely to die of stroke than the majority population. African Americans tend to develop high blood pressure — a risk factor for both heart disease and stroke — earlier and more severely than whites. The bottom line is that African Americans should take special care to minimize their risks of these diseases.

Here are a few things you can do to cut the risks:

- Eat a healthful diet. The American Heart Association advises people to cut down on total fat, cholesterol and salt.

- Control your weight. Being overweight increases your risk of heart disease.

- Get some exercise. Even moderate levels of activity such as walking the dog, gardening and yard work are beneficial.

- Don't smoke. Nearly one in five deaths from heart disease and stroke is attributable to smoking, according to the American Heart Association.

- Have your blood pressure checked. If a medicine is prescribed, take it regu-

larly. • Have your cholesterol checked.

Your doctor may prescribe diet changes and/or a cholesterol lowering drug. You should also learn to recognize the warning signs of heart attack and stroke so you can get help fast. Heart attacks will usually be preceded by one or more of the following signals:

- Uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in the center of the chest or upper abdomen lasting more than a few minutes.
- Pain spreading to the shoulders,



Assoc. Vice Pres., Larry Lucas

neck, or arms. • Chest discomfort with light-headedness, fainting, sweating, nausea or shortness of breath.

These are the warning signs of a stroke, or "brain attack". • Sudden numbness or weakness of face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body.

- Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding.
- Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes.

- Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination.
- Sudden severe headache with no known cause.

You can help protect yourself against these diseases by cutting risks and educating yourself about the warning signs of heart attack and stroke.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

NEW YORK — David E. Talbot presents the gospel musical "Mr. Right Now" at the Boston Theatre beginning at 8 p.m. (212-696-7272).

FRIDAY, APRIL 2

MONTECLAIR — Montclair State University presents "Peter Rabbit" at the Cleveland Signature Theatre production. (973)855-5112.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) presents Lauren Hill with special guests Outkast beginning at 8 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

RAHWAY — The Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs presents jazz artist Gordon James at the Arts Guild beginning at 7:30 p.m. (732)499-8226.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) presents Patti LaBelle and Gerald Levert beginning at 8 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

FRIDAY, APRIL 9

NEWARK — Celebrated jazz vocalist Cassandra Wilson returns to NJ-PAC. For this concert, Wilson lends her sultry, one-of-a-kind stylings to the music of Miles Davis. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

TRENTON — The War Memorial presents The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra with special guest conductor James DeAngelis beginning at 8 p.m. (609)394-3713.

NEW BRUNSWICK — The Rutgers Arts Center presents the Rutgers Brass Ensemble at the Nicholas Music Center beginning at 8 p.m. (732)946-7489.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16

NEW BRUNSWICK — The State Theatre presents the award winning play "The King and I" beginning at 8 p.m. (732)946-7489.

NEWARK — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) presents the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater beginning at 8 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJPAC.

Cassandra Wilson returns to NJPAC

NEWARK — Grammy Award winner Cassandra Wilson, hailed as "one of the best things to have happened to jazz in the last part of the century" by The New York Times, returns to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center with Traveling Miles: Music from Miles Davis, her tribute to the music of the legendary Miles Davis.

Performing with Wilson, who will present selections from her recently released Traveling Miles CD, is an expert 14-piece band as well as special guest artist Olu Dara, who will open the show. Wilson and her Traveling Miles quartet stop at the NJPAC's Prudential Hall on Friday, April 9 at 8 p.m.

"Not since Billie Holiday has a jazz singer cross-crossed the boundaries between jazz and pop with such reverence and authenticity," Down



Cassandra Wilson

Beat magazine said of Wilson, whose sultry, one-of-a-kind song stylings have made her one of today's most acclaimed and sought-after jazz vocalists.

Her two previous CDs, Blue Light "Till Dawn and New Moon Daughter, have sold over a million units worldwide. With the new Traveling Miles, Wilson dedicates her talent to songs made famous by Miles Davis, songs written by Davis (with new lyrics by Wilson herself), and other works inspired by the Miles Davis legacy.

"There's something in (Miles's) sound that is so strong, so masculine," Wilson said. "But at the same time there's another thing so intimate it seems almost feminine. He covers everything. His music speaks to all of us on a very real level, and his artistry is something we all should value."

Wilson's special guest for this tour, Olu Dara, is a composer, musical director, bandleader and actor who has enjoyed a 35-year career. His unique sound combines New Orleans jazz with Mississippi Delta blues and Caribbean and African rhythms.

"In the World: From Natchez to New York," Dara's most recent release and his first as a bandleader, is "the kind of unpretentious cross-cultural hybrid that feels like real life." Rolling Stone magazine said, and characterized Dara's music as "powered by beating hearts and energized by radical collisions."

Also active in African-American theater and modern dance, Dara has lent his musical expertise to a variety of projects including the PBS American Playhouse presentation of "Zora Is My Name," the Bessie Award-winning "A Brand New People on the Planet," and Robert Altman's big-screen "Kansas City."

Royal family of reggae releases new album

NEW YORK — In a time when computer-programmed music and one-hit wonders clutter the reggae airwaves, an act like Morgan Heritage is a true rarity.

Infusing their music with a sense of spirituality handed down to them by their father, reggae star Denroy Morgan (author of the 1981 gold-certified U.S. single "Till Do Anything For You"), Morgan Heritage is the leading young roots reggae group in Jamaica today.

"We played R&B and Rock 'n' Roll to develop our musical chops," said 25-year-old keyboard player and vocalist "Grandpa."

"But we always knew that our base was reggae, and that's what we always come back to," Don't Haffi Dread (the title conveys the group's belief that isn't necessary to have dreadlocks to be a Rastafarian) says. Morgan Heritage joined in the studio last producer Bobby "Digital" the album's positive lyrics reflect Morgan Heritage's religious beliefs, and address a broad range of topics such as equality, family unity and the healing powers of music.

Morgan Heritage's members Mr. Mojo (age 21, Lougo (age 28), Peter (age 24), Grandpa (age 25) and Una (age 26) are actually just 5 of Denroy Morgan's 27 children. "By growing up in America, we were always aware of American culture," says lead singer Peter. Veterans of both the Reggae Sunsplash and Reggae Summerfest tours, Morgan Heritage look to bring their show to the U.S. in the Spring.

Chantay Savage is back on the music scene

NEW YORK — There's something very special about RCA recording star Chantay Savage. Yes, she's a pretty, sexy, intelligent, extremely gifted vocalist, composer, producer, musician;

but there's more. She's also a charismatic, tell it like it is sister who takes her music seriously. Well, Savage is back to turn the world on with her distinctive style and dynamic voice, the mesmerizing centerpiece of her new album "This Time."

"This Time" is an attractive package that capitalizes on Chantay's multi-faceted artistic skills, which include playing piano and drums.

Featuring the lead single "Come Around," Chantay once again rises to the true R & B occasion, elevating its musical standards and creative scope. "I'm proud of this album; it's the best one I've ever recorded, and I say that with humble gratitude to God and everyone involved with the project," she acknowledged.

"I have a personal connection in one way or another with every song on this album," says Savage. They say the third time is the charm, and "Come Around" with album number three, Chantay Savage is sure to reach the industry's highest heights. You see, when it's all said and done, nobody does it better.



Chantay Savage

Raven-Symone sings "With a Child's Heart"

LAKE VIEW TERRACE, CA — An interesting phenomenon occurs with stars of the screen. Particularly child stars. We watch them grow up before our eyes, often deceived into thinking we know everything about them. Many times, the talent they share with us is only a smidgen of who they really are, with layers of surprises running deep within.

Such is the case with the delightful Raven-Symone. The Atlanta, GA native captured our hearts early on beginning at age three, when as Olivia Kendall, she played America's most adorable granddaughter to television's

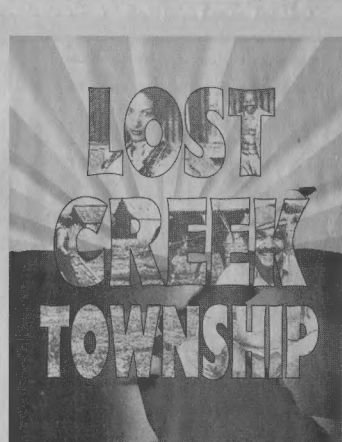
best loved dad, Cosby. In fact, Raven's childhood career has been embellished with an ongoing series of major highlights. Her charitable duties include D.A.R.E. and the General Clinic Powell's "Children's First" program.

Yet, with the release of her debut single, "With a Child's Heart," Raven-Symone impacts the scene as we've never seen her. The young child actress has blossomed into a teenaged recording artist. "With a Child's Heart," is just a taste of what to expect from her upcoming album project, "Undeniable," due out in April.

As she did so often on screen, Raven-Symone steals our hearts.



Raven-Symone



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Crossroads Theatre Company, in association with AT&T OnStage®, presents the world premiere of a new play, LOST CREEK TOWNSHIP by Charlotte A. Gibson. Directed by Reggie Montgomery. April 1 - May 16, 1999. Crossroads Theatre Company, 7 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ. For tickets call: 732-249-5560.



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The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, an NJPAC Principal Artists Affiliation, remains one of the most vital forces in American dance. "The Revelations of American Dance" —L.A. Times

Prudential Hall
Tickets: \$15-\$64

COMING SOON

SAT APR 3 AT 8:00
SACRED MUSIC
WITH THE JENNY BURTON EXPERIENCE
Featuring Chaka Khan and Special FX and guest artist Omari Akon Gumbs
AND NJPAC JUBILATION CHORUS
Victoria Theater • \$25

THUR APR 8 AT 7:00
WORD POWER: VERSE 4 VERSE
Featuring Amiri & Amino Baraka, Tony Medina, Jessica Carr Moore and other renowned poets
Hosted by Ras Baraka
With music by The Joint
Bonquet Hall • \$5

SAT APR 17 AT 7:30
GERI ALLEN TRIO AND BYE QUARTET
Victoria Theater • \$35
presented in association with WBGO / Jazz 88.3 FM

APR 21-25
WARAMBA: A MANDINGO OPERA
Victoria Theater • \$30

MAY 6-9
DANCE THEATRE OF HARLEM
Stapleton's Festival
Prudential Hall • \$15-\$64

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Classified/LEGAL NOTICE

Fax legals to:
908-753-1036
24 hours a day

RE-ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Project No. 970405-3/Contract No. 3

LEGAL NOTICE

BOCHON HOUSING AUTHORITY

C.I.A.P. CONTRACT NO. 35

INSULATION OF HEATING SYSTEM DISTRIBUTING PIPES, INSTALLATION OF RISER INSULATION VALVES, AND REPLACEMENT OF THERMOSTATIC RADIATOR VALVES AND STEAM TRAPS

AT RIVERVIEW APARTMENTS

1997-98 C.I.A.P. No. 3502515-97

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the Housing Authority of the Town of Rochon (hereinafter called the Authority), the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, at the Administration Office of the Authority, located at 125 Chestnut Street, Rochon, New Jersey, on the 24th day of April, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. prevailing time. The Authority reserves the right to receive any informal bids in bids and to reject any and all bids if it is in the best interests of the Authority to do so. Also, have been issued all orders of record. Addendum No. 3 is being described herein the bid due date will be issued March 24, 1999, and anticipated Addendum No. 4, yet to be issued, is expected to be issued on or before April 2, 1999.

Separate sealed bids for:

CONTRACT 3 - Insulation of Heating System including, Insulation of Riser Insulation Valves, and Replacement of Thermostatic Radiator Valves and Steam Traps, at Riverview Apartments.

All work incidental thereto, in accordance with Specifications.

Bids must be accompanied by a certified check or Bid Bond in the following amounts:

BIDS	AMOUNT
up to \$20,000	10%
\$20,000 - \$400,000	20.00%
over \$400,000	5%

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attend any of the hearings, written comments for the record may be sent to Albert R. Haskins, III, New Jersey Transit Corporation, One Penn Plaza East, Newark, New Jersey 07102-2245 by May 7, 1999, in accordance with the above statute, public hearings will be held as follows:

INFORMATION FOR BIDS

LEGAL NOTICE

WOODBRIDGE HOUSING AUTHORITY

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that sealed bids will be received by the Housing Authority of the Township of Woodbridge (hereinafter called the Authority), in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, at the Administration Office of the Authority, located at 200 North Avenue, Woodbridge, NJ 07095, on the 24th day of April, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. prevailing time.

All bids shall be delivered by hand. All bids will be opened publicly and read aloud at that time. The Authority reserves the right to receive any informal bids in bids and to reject any and all bids if it is in the best interests of the Authority to do so.

Separate sealed bids for:

CONTRACT 02 - VENTILATION

A pre-bid conference will be held at Greater Towers located at 480 Innan Avenue, Colonia, NJ, on Monday, April 5, 1999 at 9:30 AM.

All work incidental thereto, including but not limited to the replacement and modifications of rooftop exhaust fans and control wiring at various buildings and as required in accordance with the Project Manual.

Bids must be accompanied by a certified check or Bid Bond in the following amounts:

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Local Briefs

Hertz employees at Newark Airport strike over salary

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — More than 100 Hertz employees at Newark International Airport went on strike seeking an additional 15 cents an hour and more respect.

Fifteen members of Teamsters Local 723 began picketing the car rental agency's airport office on March 19. The union's contract with Hertz expired last November, said secretary-treasurer John Humphrey. The 113 rental car agents, mechanics and vehicle service agents earn \$10 an hour on average, and are seeking raises of 65 to 70 cents an hour for the next three years, he said.

Hertz offered the union 50 cents-an-hour raises for each of three years, he said.

Humphrey said that Hertz's income has continued to rise, but workers haven't been adequately compensated.

Russo said a federal mediator met with representatives of Local 723 two days ago to iron out the contract but no agreement was reached. No further talks were scheduled.

Merger costs hundreds of New Jersey First Union employees their jobs

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — First Union, the nation's sixth biggest banking company, plans to cut about 5,850 jobs, or 7 percent of its work force, in a restructuring.

About 325 workers are losing their jobs in New Jersey, said First Union spokeswoman Tish Siget.

The job cuts come in the wake of First Union's \$16.1 billion merger last year with Philadelphia-based Core States Financial Corp. The banking company said last month it was considering cutting as many as 7,150 jobs. Its combined work force stands at about 79,000.

Siget said the New Jersey job losses represent about 5 percent of the company's work force in the state.

About 50 workers are being let go in Summit, where the company has a headquarters serving New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. More than 50 people are losing their jobs in Rochelle Park. First Union said its restructuring plan is expected to produce pre-tax cost savings of about \$400 million for 1999.

PSE&G asks for chance to recover \$3 billion after deregulation

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — The state's largest utility asked regulators to allow it to try to recover \$3.075 billion in generation costs after the state opens the energy market to competition.

The Board of Public Utilities asked the state's four electricity suppliers to submit proposals on how to resolve key issues in the energy deregulation process, which is expected to begin August 1. Public Service Electric & Gas Co. is the first utility to submit a proposal. The board is expected to make a decision on its proposal by the end of the month, and resolve the other three utilities' issues by May.

Gov. Christine Whitman signed the bill into law last month, which cuts electricity and natural gas rates by five percent this year, and an additional five percent over three years. Customers will be able to choose their electricity suppliers in August and their natural gas suppliers by the end of the year.

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Department of Human Services

State settles lawsuit in alleged racial case

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — The New Jersey State Police has agreed to a \$225,000 settlement with a black woman who said she was pulled over because of her race, beaten and spat at. "This was a classic New Jersey State Police profile stop based strictly on the type of vehicle and the race of the occupants and nothing else," said Ronald Saggi, a lawyer for Dorothy Cobbs.

State officials did not admit any wrongdoing in the settlement, saying

the agreement was made to avoid the cost of litigation.

The settlement comes as the state defends off allegations that State Police target minority motorists for stops. Gov. Christine Whitman recently fired State Police Superintendent Cliff Williams, who said minorities were responsible for most of the state's cocaine and marijuana traffic.

Ms. Cobbs, 52, of Wyandanch, N.Y., said in December alleging false arrest, false imprisonment, assault and

battery, malicious destruction of property and conspiracy to commit perjury.

She said the mistreatment happened when she was returning from a trip to Atlantic City on Jan. 4, 1996, while driving her black Porsche.

She contends, Trooper Patrick O'Dwyer — a two-time state trooper of the year — pulled her over saying she had a broken tail light. She says O'Dwyer swore at her, grabbed her by the wrist, punched her in the face, sprayed her with Mace and later tackled her

after she ran across the highway to a median.

After being taken to the State Police barracks, she was slammed against a wall, spat at and verbally abused, the lawsuit said.

O'Dwyer said Ms. Cobbs was driving slowly on the parkway and he pulled her over to offer assistance. He said he smelled alcohol on her breath and asked her to get out of the car. He said she became irate and unruly during questioning.

Union County collecting household special waste

ELIZABETH — Union County Freeholder chairman Nicholas P. Scutari recently announced that the county will sponsor three "Spring Household Special Waste Day" collection events. The first event is scheduled for Saturday, April 17, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Kentlworth Public Works Yard at 14th St. and Sheridan Ave.

All Union county residents are eligible to participate at no cost. Pre-registration is not required for any of the collection days. Contractors are not eligible.

The second event is scheduled for May 15th at the Linden Recycling Center on Doudland Place in Linden (near the corner of Elizabeth Ave. and Stiles St.).

Acceptable household special waste includes oil-based paint and varnishes, antifreeze, pool chemicals, corrosives and cleaners, pesticides and herbicides, caustics, solvents and thinners, aerosol cans, asphalt sealers, fire extinguishers, flammable liquids and solids, motor oil and motor oil filters, gasoline, transmission fluid, automotive products, batteries (dry cell and lead acid), propane tanks, fluorescent bulbs (unbroken), thermostats, thermonometers, and mercury switches.

Scotch Plains will host the third spring collection event on June 12th at the Scotch Plains Public Works Yard on Plainfield Ave.

Containers larger than five gallons, empty containers, unidentified material, explosives, radioactive material will not be accepted.

The county will accept school laboratory waste chemicals at all of these collection events. According to Freeholder Mary Rausche, liaison to Union County Environmental Services, this program is designed to assist schools in accessing an environmentally sound, cost-efficient method of disposing of unwanted chemical wastes and reagents.

Residents must schedule appointments. Call (908) 654-9990 for more info.

NJ Golden Gloves bout is sure to be a knockout!

PLAINFIELD — Lennox Lewis, World Boxing Council Heavyweight Champion, entertained the Black United Fund Health and Human Services Boxing club at his Pecocom, Pennsylvania, training camp prior to his fight with Evander Holyfield.

Cliff Jackson, Director of BUF Boxing, and 20 young boxers dined, received autographs and viewed a Lennox Lewis sparring session while planning the 1999 New Jersey Golden Gloves Tournament on April 2, 1999, to be hosted by BUF's Boxing club. Lewis has visited with BUF in the past.

Harold Knight, assistant trainer for Lewis, is one of the trainers at BUF Boxing.

The second annual New Jersey Golden Gloves Tournament will take place at Plainfield High School in the first 1999 event sanctioned by the NJ Golden Gloves organization. Sondra Clark, President/CEO of BUF Health and Human Services, and event organizer stated, "this year we have planned a full day of activities including a VIP reception for sponsors, Golden Gloves officials, and celebrities at the BUF complex followed by the Golden Gloves Tournament at Plainfield High School."

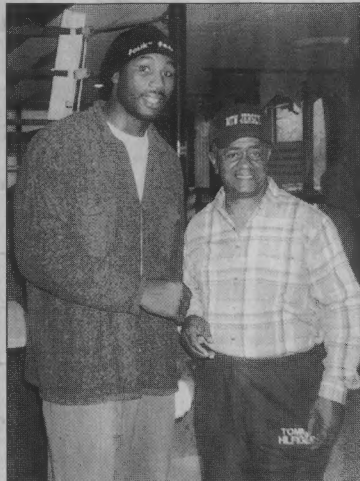
The New Jersey Golden Gloves has a rich history of providing top ranked boxers to the US Olympic movement according to Cliff Jackson who directs

the BUF Boxing Club. "We are honored to bring the Golden Gloves to Plainfield, a city that is rich in sports tradition," commented Jackson. BUF boxing, which opened its doors in 1995, has represented New Jersey on trips to Puerto Rico, Lake Placid, NY, Washington, DC, Bihol, MS, and Orlando, FL.

Plainfield boxing, which dominated the Golden Gloves in the 1980s, was the springboard for prominent boxers including Glenwood "The Beast" Brown, Harold "The Shadow" Knight, and Tracy "Slam Bam" Spum — who were all champions for world titles. More recently, Jay Perez, representing BUF, won the Amateur Boxing Federation (ABF) welterweight state championship January 23, 1998.

"We had six of our boxers in the Northeast Regional Tournament final at the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid," commented Jackson. "We walked away with four regional champs, and look to do well in the April 2, 1999, NJ Golden Gloves event, which we will be hosting."

Local area sponsors have come on board to support the tournament. Allen stated "Local businesses like Amara and Portfield Transportation, Oakley Freshwaters, Taste of the South, ERA Realty, Alpha Graphics and Q&M Laugave have purchased advertising and banner/bout sponsorships. We are looking forward to a large crowd."



World Boxing Heavyweight Champion, Lennox Lewis entertains BUF Boxing director, Cliff Jackson.

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Sum Fun	Fir Uni Fun	2.65%	\$2,500	Unlimited.	Deposit and withdrawal at any time without penalty.
Int Che	Int Che	2.50%	\$500	Unlimited.	Keep \$500 in the account to earn interest and avoid service charges.
50 Che	50 Che	2.50%	\$50	Unlimited.	No charge for writing checks, personalized checks, money orders, or American Express® Travelers Cheques®.

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- *You must be at least 62 years of age to have this account.
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1021 Springfield Avenue
LIVINGSTON:
493 South Livingston Avenue
271 East Northfield Street
MADISON:
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MILBURN:
643 Millburn Avenue
NEW PROVIDENCE:
575-575 Expressway Avenue
Upper Merion, Route 22 West

PLAINFIELD:
130 Washington Avenue
ROXBURY TWP.:
Robur Mill, Suite 10 East
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407 Park Avenue
SPRINGFIELD:
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Mountain and Meric Avenue
UNION:
277-279 Expressway Avenue
Upper Merion, Route 22 West

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